

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BANJUL 00390 140906Z

15

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /078 W

----- 059631

R 140817Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3281

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

USUN NEW YORK 0091

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANJUL 0390

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UN, RQ, GA

SUBJ: GOTG POSITION REGARDING PUERTO RICO

REF: A. STATE 49330, B. 75 STATE 229493

1. FOLLOWING RECEIPT REFTTEL, CHARGE SPOKE WITH M.M. SOSSEH, ACTING SECGEN GOTG, TO DISCUSS PUERTO RICO, AMONG OTHER UN ISSUES. SOSSEH RECALLED PRIOR DISCUSSION WE HAD ON SAME SUBJECT IN SEPTEMBER, 1975, AND AIDE MEMOIRE WHICH EMBASSY HAD PREPARED (BASED ON REF B). SOSSEH SUGGESTED U.S. POSITION BE SPELLED OUT IN DIPLOMATIC NOTE, TO WHICH GOTG WOULD MAKE FORMAL REPLY. NOTE WAS PREPARED AND FORWARDED MAR 10, USING ARGUMENTS CONTAINED REF A, AND ENCLOSING UNGA DOC NO A/OC.109/L.976 OF AUG 26, 1974. GAMBIAN REPLY RECEIVED APR 8, STATING GOTG "SHARES SAME VIEWS" WITH USG.

2. OPERATIVE PARAGRAPH GAMBIAN NOTE SAYS POLITICAL STATUS PUERTO RICO IS IN FIRST PLACE MATTER FOR PR PEOPLE, WHO, IF THEY DO NOT FEEL THEMSELVES FULLY INDEPENDENT, MUST SAY SO. MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DECLARES ITS GRATIFICATION THAT U.S. CONGRESS /SIC/ HAS INDICATED IT WOULD FAVORABLY CONSIDER GRANTING INDEPENDENCE IN EVENT OF CLEAR MANIFESTATION
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FAVORING SAME ON PART OF POPULAR MAJORITY IN PR.

3. OTHER SOUNDINGS WITH KEY GAMBIAN OFFICIALS INDICATE SOLID SUPPORT FOR U.S. POSITIONS ON PUERTO RICO. IF PR BECOMES CONTENTIOUS ISSUE AT 31ST GA, GAMBIANS COULD BE HELPFUL, BUT WOULD NOT WANT TO BE AHEAD OF OTHER MODERATE AFRICAN COUNTRIES ADOPTING ESSENTIALLY PRO-U.S. STANCE. SUGGEST DISCRETION BE EMPLOYED IN USING GAMBIAN NOTE, AND IN DISCUSSING GAMBIAN POSITION WITH OTHER NONALIGNED.

4. TEXT OF GAMBIAN NOTE, EMBASSY NOTE DATED MAR 10, AND EMBASSY AIDE MEMOIRE DATED SEP 29, 1975, BEING POUCHED APR 13 TO AF/W AND IO/OFFICE OF MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS.
WYGANT

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Draft Date: 14 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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